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**TWO SENTENCED TO 78 AND 37 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR
TRAFFICKING IN COUNTERFEIT IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and MARK J. MERSHON, the Assistant Director in Charge of the New York Office of the FBI, announced that RAFAL GRZYBOWSKI was sentenced today by Chief United States District Judge MICHAEL B. MUKASEY to 78 months in prison for his role in a conspiracy to counterfeit, forge, and sell hundreds of identification documents, including United States visas and passports, primarily in the Greenpoint area of Brooklyn. GRZYBOWSKI failed to appear for the sentencing and was sentenced in his absence. A co-defendant, STEFAN OLESNIEWICZ, was sentenced by Judge MUKASEY to 37 months in prison on October 7, 2005 for his role in the same conspiracy.

According to the Indictment, the defendants' statements at the time of their guilty pleas, and the evidence presented at a sentencing hearing, from around 1999 through around 2003, GRZYBOWSKI and OLESNIEWICZ trafficked in identification documents. In addition to United States visas and passports, GRZYBOWSKI and OLESNIEWICZ counterfeited and sold I-94 entry/exit cards, which serve as registration forms for individuals admitted to the United States and are commonly accepted as proof that an individual is legally present in the United States. GRZYBOWSKI and OLESNIEWICZ also sold counterfeit stamps and specialized inks for the documents to be forged, according to the proof at the hearing and the Indictment. GRZYBOWSKI and OLESNIEWICZ also arranged for others to fraudulently obtain driver's licenses and social security cards, often using the counterfeit documents that they offered for sale.

The charges against GRZYBOWSKI and OLESNIEWICZ arose from a broad-reaching investigative effort of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in conjunction with the United States Attorney's Office and spanning more than two years, to combat the trafficking of fraudulent identification documents in the New York area. These investigations, which have resulted in numerous convictions, have focused on issues that include: the unlawful trafficking of Washington, D.C. driver's licenses, obtained by bribing an employee of the Washington, D.C. Department of Motor Vehicles; the unlawful trafficking of Florida and Michigan driver's licenses, usually fraudulently obtained by using other counterfeit identification documents; the unlawful trafficking in social security cards, often obtained by using other counterfeit identification documents including fraudulently-obtained driver's licenses; and the unlawful trafficking in passports, visas, I-94 cards, and other immigration documents.

At the sentencing of OLESNIEWICZ on October 7th, Judge MUKASEY said, "This offense is a 'breeder' crime, which can compromise this nation's immigration laws and also the security of this country."

GRZYBOWSKI, 36, was a resident of Queens, New York. He failed to appear at his original sentencing date on October 7, 2005 and is currently a fugitive.

OLESNIEWICZ, 47, is a resident of Brooklyn, New York.

Both GRZYBOWSKI and OLESNIEWICZ pled guilty to three of the five counts contained in the Indictment on June 7, 2004.

Mr. GARCIA praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the investigation of this case.

Mr. GARCIA stated: "These lengthy sentences should serve as a warning to those involved in the manufacture and sale of counterfeit identification documents. We will continue to focus on investigating and prosecuting the organized rings that traffic in counterfeit identity documents because the false identification--typically obtained for illegal aliens--can be used for any number of criminal purposes, from illegally remaining in the United States, to using the documents to illegally obtain other identification documents, to committing other crimes, such as credit card and bank fraud. Most significantly, these crimes are potential threats to public safety and our national security because they allow individuals to create new identities for themselves, so that they can live

anonymously and elude law enforcement detection, with potentially devastating aims."

Assistant United States Attorney ALEXANDER H. SOUTHWELL is in charge of the prosecution.

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